



WORK SHEET

Module 3.5 Parallel Parking Student Activity

The following activity will help you practice parallel parking before you actually perform the maneuver in the car. Print the last two pages of this work sheet on a color printer and use a 3" long model car.

Work in groups of two as you perform each of the maneuvers with the model car. One person is the driver and the other is the instructor. The driver will perform each of the tasks as the instructor gives directions. Move the car and practice the maneuvers using a simulated steering wheel and making the head checks as you parallel park your car.

1. Signal on approach and get side position three feet from parked cars.
2. Check the size of your intended space.
3. Pull beyond the space. Line up your pivot point: rear bumpers, side mirrors or steering wheels.
4. Stop, shift to reverse.
5. Search and yield.
6. Turn steering wheel fully right toward the space and back to a 45° angle until pivot point lines up with rear bumper of the other car. Stop.
7. Straighten your wheels to the left and continue backing straight, toward your target. Back slowly at inching speed.
8. Check for front clearance. When your front bumper is past rear bumper of the other car, turn steering wheel all the way left towards the roadway.
9. Back until parallel with the curb. Do not bump car behind. Straighten the wheel and center your car in the space. Secure the vehicle. Vehicles parked parallel shall have wheels within 18 inches of the curb.

Parallel Parking Detail

Approach and Alignment

1. Check rear for traffic.
2. Get best speed control.
3. Signal.
4. Get best side position 2-3 feet away—use reference point.
5. Evaluate size of space—will my car fit?
6. Pull forward until your mirrors match up. (You could use steering wheel to steering wheel, head restraint to head restraint, or door-post to door-post).

Backing

1. Foot on brake and shift to reverse.
2. Do a 360 degree search.
3. When clear, begin backing up at creeping speed.
4. Turn wheel sharply to the right when the rear bumper of other car is even with your pivot point.
5. Target to the rear.
6. Watch for left front corner for swing out into traffic.

Straighten

1. Straighten wheel when your car is at 45 degrees (you are at 45 degrees when your middle door post lines with the rear bumper of the parked car).
2. Back until your right side mirror is even with the bumper of the parked car.

Centering

1. Back until your car is parallel with the curb.
2. Straighten your wheels.
3. Shift to drive and center your vehicle in the space.

Secure and Exit Your Car

1. Follow procedures to secure and exit your vehicle.



